## What is claimed is:

1	1. A method of accessing a group in a clustered computer system, wherein the
2	clustered computer system includes a plurality of nodes, and wherein the group
3	includes a plurality of members resident respectively on the plurality of nodes, the
4	method comprising:
5	(a) receiving an access request on a first node in the plurality of nodes,
6	wherein the access request identifies a cluster-private group name associated
7	with the group; and
8	(b) processing the access request on the first node to initiate a group
9	operation on at least a subset of the plurality of nodes that map to the cluster-
10	private group name.
1	2. The method of claim 1, further comprising generating the access request
2	with a user job resident on the first node.
1	3. The method of claim 2, further comprising forwarding the access request to
2	a clustering infrastructure resident in the first node via a call from the user job.
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1	4. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
2	(a) generating the access request with a user job resident on a second
3	node in the plurality of nodes; and
4	(b) processing the access request with a proxy job resident on the
5	second node by communicating the access request to the first node.
1	5. The method of claim 4, wherein the proxy job is a member of a cluster
2	control group, the method further comprising:
3	(a) forwarding the access request from the user job to the proxy job;
4	and
5	(b) forwarding the access request from the proxy job to a clustering
6	infrastructure resident in the second node via a call from the proxy job.

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1	6. The method of claim 1, further comprising retrieving the cluster-private
2	group name with a user job by accessing a cluster-private data structure.

- 7. The method of claim 6, wherein the cluster-private data structure is resident on the same node as the user job.
- 8. The method of claim 7, wherein the cluster-private data structure is accessible only from the node upon which the cluster-private data structure is resident.
  - 9. The method of claim 8, wherein the cluster-private data structure is accessible only by jobs that are resident on the node upon which the cluster-private data structure is resident.
  - 10. The method of claim 1, wherein initiating the group operation comprises distributing messages to a plurality of group members resident on the nodes that map to the cluster-private group name.
  - 11. The method of claim 10, wherein initiating the group operation further comprises accessing a group address data structure to retrieve a plurality of network addresses associated with the cluster-private group name, wherein distributing messages to the plurality of group members includes sending a message to each of the plurality of network addresses.
- 12. The method of claim 1, wherein initiating the group operation is performed by a clustering infrastructure resident on the first node.
- 1 13. The method of claim 12, wherein initiating the group operation includes 2 retrieving with the clustering infrastructure a plurality of addresses that are mapped to 3 the cluster-private group name in a data structure that is local to the clustering 4 infrastructure.

- 1 14. The method of claim 1, wherein initiating the group operation includes
- 2 locally resolving on the first node a mapping between the cluster-private group name
- 3 and a plurality of addresses associated with at least the subset of the plurality of
- 4 nodes.

1	15. An apparatus, comprising:		
2	(a) a memory accessible by a first node among a plurality of nodes in a		
3	clustered computer system; and		
4	(b) a program resident in the memory and executed by the first node,		
5	the program configured to access a group that includes a plurality of members		
6	resident respectively on the plurality of nodes by receiving an access request		
7	that identifies a cluster-private group name associated with the group, and		
8	processing the access request to initiate a group operation on at least a subset		
9	of the plurality of nodes that map to the cluster-private group name.		
1	16. The apparatus of claim 15, further comprising a user job configured to		
2	generate the access request.		
1	17. The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the program comprises a clustering		
2	infrastructure resident on the first node.		
1	18. The apparatus of claim 17, further comprising a proxy job configured to		
2	forward the access request from the user job to the clustering infrastructure.		
1	19. The apparatus of claim 15, further comprising:		
2	(a) a cluster-private data structure configured to store the cluster-		
3	private group name; and		
4	(b) a user job configured to access the cluster-private data structure to		
5	retrieve the cluster-private group name and generate the access request		
6	therefrom.		
1	20. The apparatus of claim 19, wherein the cluster-private data structure is		
2	resident on the same node as the user job.		
1	21. The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the cluster-private data structure is		

accessible only from the node upon which the cluster-private data structure is resident.

22. The apparatus of claim 15, further comprising a group address data
structure configured to store a plurality of network addresses associated with the
cluster-private group name, wherein the program is configured to initiate the group
operation by accessing the group address data structure to retrieve the plurality of
network addresses and sending a message to each of the plurality of network
addresses.

- 23. The apparatus of claim 22, wherein the program comprises a clustering infrastructure, and wherein the group address data structure is local to the clustering infrastructure.
- 24. The method of claim 15, wherein the program is further configured to process the access request by locally resolving on the first node a mapping between the cluster-private group name and a plurality of addresses associated with at least the subset of the plurality of nodes.

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- (a) a plurality of nodes coupled to one another over a network;
- (b) a group including a plurality of members resident respectively on the plurality of nodes; and
- (c) a program resident in a first node among the plurality of nodes and configured to access the group by receiving an access request that identifies a cluster-private group name associated with the group, and processing the access request to initiate a group operation on at least a subset of the plurality of nodes that map to the cluster-private group name.

1	26. A program product, comprising:
2	(a) a program resident in the memory and executed by a first node
3	among a plurality of nodes in a clustered computer system, the program
4	configured to access a group that includes a plurality of members resident
5	respectively on the plurality of nodes by receiving an access request that
6	identifies a cluster-private group name associated with the group, and
7	processing the access request to initiate a group operation on at least a subse
8	of the plurality of nodes that map to the cluster-private group name; and
9	(b) a signal bearing medium bearing the program.